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Featuring:

► Agricultural Prices
► Chicken & Eggs

► Cold Storage
► Cattle on Feed

► Slaughter
► Milk Production

► Farm Labor

KENTUCKY GRAIN AND LIVESTOCK PRICES REMAIN MIXED

Prices received by Kentucky farmers were up for grains while generally down for livestock. Only sows and all milk increased in price.

Steers and heifers 500 lbs. and over averaged \$87.00 per cwt. (hundred pounds) for mid-November. This was down \$11.00 from the October price and \$16.00 from November 2005. This would be the lowest steer and heifer price since February 2004. **Beef cow** price at mid-month averaged \$43.00 per cwt., down \$2.00 from the previous month and \$1.00 from a year earlier. This was the lowest beef cow price since October 2003. **Calves** less than 500 lbs. were \$104.00 per cwt., the lowest calf price in 33 months. The mid-November price was down \$10.00 from October and \$14.00 from November 2005. Calf prices had previously set a record high \$133.00 per cwt. in May 2005.

Hog prices for mid-November were mixed with barrows and gilts down in price while sows were up. **Barrows and gilts** for mid-month were \$46.00 per cwt. This was down \$1.00 from the October price while up \$3.00 from November 2005. **Sows** averaged \$39.00 per cwt., up \$2.00 from October while down \$1.00 from a year earlier. Sow prices were the highest in 12 months.

Sheep and lamb prices for October were mixed. The **sheep** price at \$42.00 per cwt. was down \$4.00 from September while the **lamb** price at \$98.00 per cwt. was up \$4.00 from September and the highest in seven months. Compared to October 2005, the sheep price was down \$10.00 and the lamb price was down \$7.00.

Price of **all milk** for mid-November was \$14.70 per cwt., up 10 cents from October while down \$1.50 from a year earlier. This was the fifth month that the price of milk has increased from the previous month. The final monthly milk price will vary from the projected mid-month price due to price changes announced by the Milk Marketing Orders, actual milk fat content and quantity sold by milk classes.

Grain prices for mid-November were all up from the previous month and year. **Corn** price for mid-

November was \$3.50 per bushel, up 87 cents from October and \$1.51 from a year earlier. The mid-month price of corn was the highest since August 1996. Price of **soybeans** at mid-month was \$6.50 per bushel, up 65 cents from the previous month and 76 cents from the previous year. This would be the highest soybean price in 16 months. **Winter wheat** price for mid-November was \$4.40 per bushel, up 37 cents from October and 97 cents from November 2005. The mid-month winter wheat price would be the highest since June 1996.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 121 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (4.3 percent) from October. The Crop Index is up 10 points (8.7 percent) but the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.9 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for corn, soybeans, eggs, and milk. Lower prices were received for cattle, tomatoes, oranges, and hogs. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of milk, cattle, cotton, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, potatoes, peanuts, and lettuce. The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 9 points (8.0 percent) from November 2005.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY		US	
		NOV 2005	OCT 2006	NOV 2006	NOV 2006
		Entire Month		Mid-Month g/	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	1.99	2.63	3.50	3.12
Soybeans b/	Bu.	5.74	5.85	6.50	6.15
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	3.43	4.03	4.40	4.65
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	120.00	120.00	120.00	109.00
All Other Hay, baled	Ton	70.00	70.00	70.00	98.10
All Hogs	Cwt.	42.90	46.60	45.70	44.50
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	43.00	47.00	46.00	44.80
Sows	Cwt.	40.00	37.00	39.00	36.10
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	88.80	85.30	76.40	84.40
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	103.00	98.00	87.00	90.00
Cows	Cwt.	44.00	45.00	43.00	43.70
Calves f/	Cwt.	118.00	114.00	104.00	119.00
Sheep	Cwt.	45.00	42.00	--	--
Lambs	Cwt.	102.00	98.00	--	--
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	16.20	14.60	14.70	13.80
Hog-Corn Ratios g/	Bu.	21.6	17.7	13.1	14.3

a/ Preliminary. b/ Includes contract sales paid during month. c/ Includes yellow and white corn. d/ "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. e/ 500 lbs. and over. f/ Under 500 lbs. g/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on October 31, 2006, were greater than year earlier levels for butter, beef, cheese, and pork.

All U S. Warehouse Stocks				Oct 06 as % of	
Commodity	Oct 31 2005	Sept 30 2006	Oct 31 2006	Oct 2005	Sept 2006
Frozen Poultry		1,000 lbs		Percent	
Chicken	804,192	710,515	712,878	89	100
Turkey	417,605	463,908	411,577	99	89
Ducks	2,714	6,341	5,579	206	88
Total Frozen Poultry	1,224,511	1,180,764	1,130,034	92	96
Meat					
Total Frozen Beef	439,186	477,372	473,743	108	99
Frozen Pork					
Bellies	15,211	10,199	16,618	109	163
Total Frozen Pork <u>1/</u>	446,476	440,728	466,731	105	106
Total Meat <u>2/</u>	905,928	934,795	958,892	106	103

1/ Includes picnics, hams, bellies, loins, ribs, trimmings, and other frozen pork. 2/ Includes frozen beef, pork, veal, lamb and mutton, other frozen meat, canned hams, and other canned meat.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.18 billion pounds in October, up 7 percent from the 3.93 billion pounds produced in October 2005. October 2005 contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays. October 2006 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. Beef production, at 2.23 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.86 million head, up 7 percent from October 2005. The average live weight was up 8 pounds from the previous year, at 1,288 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.92 billion pounds, up 6 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.64 million head, 6 percent above October 2005. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 269 pounds.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES & KENTUCKY 1/

Class	October 2005	September 2006	October 2006	Oct 06 as % of	
				October 2005	September 2006
Million Pounds			Percent		
Beef	2,081	2,162	2,228	107	103
Veal	12.6	12.8	14.1	112	110
Pork	1,816	1,744	1,924	106	110
Lamb & Mutton	15.8	14.2	15.6	99	110
Total U.S.	3,925	3,933	4,182	107	106
Total Kentucky	43.3	42.6	45.3	105	106

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER: KENTUCKY & U.S. OCTOBER 2005 & 2006 1/

Class	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.6	1.6	1,428	1,478	891	937
Hogs	211.8	221.7	56,535	59,390	267	268
Sheep & Lambs	1.1	1.0	151	117	135	120
United States						
Cattle	2,679.2	2,855.5	3,428,297	3,678,846	1,280	1,288
Hogs	9,118.1	9,636.2	2,449,676	2,596,678	269	269
Sheep & Lambs	228.2	236.0	31,403	31,062	138	132

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

U.S. HIRED WORKERS DOWN 5 PERCENT, WAGE RATES UP 4 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

There were 1,077,000 hired workers on the **Nation's** farms and ranches during the week of October 8-14, 2006, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 797,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 280,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.95 per hour during the October 2006 reference week, up 34 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.25 per hour, up 35 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$9.41 per hour compared with \$9.15 a year earlier. The

field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.29 per hour, was up 33 cents from last year.

The number of hired workers in the **3-State Region including Kentucky, West Virginia, and Tennessee** totaled 27,000 during the week of October 8-14, 2006.

Field workers in the region were paid \$8.66 per hour, compared to \$8.48 during the same period last year. Livestock workers were paid \$9.22 per hour compared to \$8.26 last year. The wage rate for all hired workers in the 3-State Region was \$9.30.

UNITED STATES EGG PRODUCTION & HATCH

Type	Oct. 2005	Oct. 2006	Oct. 2006 % of Oct. 2005
Egg Production			
Eggs Produced (Million)	7,665	7,671	100
Average Layers (000)	342,823	343,776	100
Eggs Per 100 Layers	2,236	2,231	100
Egg Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Nov 1 (000)	33,721	32,762	97
Chicks Hatched (000)	35,461	36,271	102
Broiler Type Hatchery			
Eggs Set Nov 1 (000)	623,102	608,412	98
Chicks Hatched (000)	776,449	771,822	99

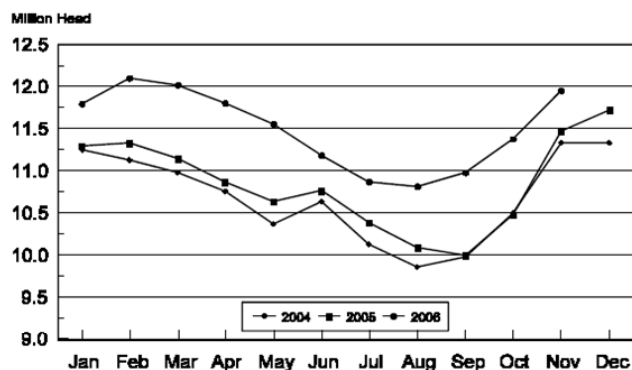
U. S. CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 12.0 million head on November 1, 2006. The inventory was 4 percent above November 1, 2005 and 6 percent above November 1, 2004. This is the highest November 1 inventory since the series began in 1996.

Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.43 million, 13 percent below 2005 and 10 percent below 2004. Net placements were 2.34 million head. This is the second lowest placements for the month of October since the series began in 1996. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 840,000, 600-699 pounds were 645,000, 700-799 pounds were 485,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 455,000. **Marketings** of fed cattle during October totaled 1.77 million, 2 percent

above 2005 but 2 percent below 2004. **Other disappearance** totaled 81,000 during October, 40 percent above 2005 and 23 percent above 2004.

United States Cattle on Feed
1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



MILK PRODUCTION

Kentucky milk production for October 2006 totaled 104 million pounds. This was down 3 percent from October 2005 production but up 7 percent from September 2006. The average **number of cows** on farms, at 95,000 head, was down 8,000 head from a year earlier and down 1,000 head from last month. **Milk per cow** averaged 1,090 pounds, up 50 pounds from October 2005 and up 80 pounds from September 2006.

Milk production in the **23 major States** during October

totaled 13.7 billion pounds, up 2.1 percent from October 2005. September revised production, at 13.3 billion pounds, was up 2.0 percent from September 2005. The September revision represented a decrease of 6 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. **Production per cow** in the 23 major States averaged 1,656 pounds for October, 19 pounds above October 2005. The **number of cows** on farms in the 23 major States was 8.25 million head, 78,000 head more than October 2005, and 2,000 head more than September 2006.

MILK COWS & MILK PRODUCTION FOR OCTOBER, SELECTED STATES

STATE	Milk Cows <u>1/</u>		Milk Per Cow <u>2/</u>		Production <u>2/</u>		2006 as %
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	of 2005
	Thousands		Pounds		Million Pounds		Percent
CA	1,765	1,776	1,785	1,815	3,151	3,223	102
IL	104	103	1,510	1,550	157	160	102
IN	155	165	1,685	1,640	261	271	104
KY	103	95	1,040	1,090	107	104	97
MO	114	115	1,280	1,240	146	143	98
OH	270	274	1,430	1,470	386	403	104
VA	105	103	1,370	1,350	144	139	97
WI	1,238	1,246	1,535	1,535	1,900	1,913	101
23-State							
Total	8,168	8,246	1,637	1,656	13,373	13,652	102

1/Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Internet Access: Data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>